

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Chinese Communist Order for the Conservation
of Gasoline

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

The Committee of Finance and Economics (CFE) of the Government Administrative Council (GAC) recently ordered strict conservation and control over the use of gasoline. Their decree is summarized as follows:

1. The purpose of this decree is to establish conservation in the use of gasoline and rationing in its supply in order to prevent waste and to assure adequate supplies for meeting essential military, industrial, and transportation requirements.

2. Effective this date* the Major Administrative Regions** (MAR) shall tighten existing controls and institute whatever additional measures are necessary to insure strict supervision over the use of gasoline; they shall authorize the CEE of the MAR to enforce these measures.

3. The MAR shall lead various governmental agencies, troops, and public and private enterprises in exercising strict economy in the use of gasoline, shall promote the use of substitutes insofar as possible, and shall encourage the use of man and animal power for short-haul transport.

4. No government agency, public body or person, except organizations and merchants so authorized by the CFE of the NAR, shall be permitted to buy and sell gasoline. All offenders will be prosecuted by the judicial organs, and the gasoline so marketed will be confiscated.

5. Gasoline will be rationed on a point system. The CFE of the NAR will insure that gasoline is rationed strictly on the basis of (a) purpose for which it will be used, (b) quantity needed, and (c) urgency of the requirement. No organization, enterprise or agency shall request additional or special supplies on the ground of special circumstances encountered.

6. The priority for gasoline allocation is as follows:

a. Military use, including transportation of troops and shipment of
ammunition, equipment, clothing and food

b. Industrial use, including gasoline required by railways, financial, trading and postal services, and by important public and private production enterprises.

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c. Communications, including gasoline required by long-distance transportation services operated by public and private interests.

d. Government use, including gasoline required by vehicles provided for the official use of party, government and military organizations above the provincial level, and use by other public agencies.

e. All other uses not listed above.

7. All organizations requiring gasoline must prepare a plan for its use and submit the plan to the CFE of the appropriate MAR for approval before a regular and periodic supply will be granted.

8. The MAR will check constantly to insure that organizations receiving gasoline are not wasting, hoarding or secretly selling it. Any organizations found guilty of waste, hoarding or selling gasoline allotted for its use will be suspended from rationing and will be punished by the MAR concerned.

9. The CFE of the MAR shall compile inventories of gasoline allocated to the various regions (including amount of gasoline stored, quantity received, name of organizations receiving rationed gasoline and the amount received by each) which will be reported monthly to the CFE of the GAC.

10. All shipments of gasoline within any MAR shall be accompanied by documents issued by organizations entitled to use gasoline. Shipments between various MAR, unless covered by clearances issued by authorized agencies of the CFE of the GAC, shall be stopped and disposed of according to law.

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* Comment. [redacted] did not specify the date.

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** Comment. Major Administrative Regions (MAR) is a collective term referring to the East China Region, North China Region, and other administrative regions of the same rank.

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